



Repeater: NØDX 145.190 MHz (Input 144.590 / Tone 192.8 Hz)



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The Eastern Iowa DX Bulletin

Number 311, January 30, 2026

Craig Fastenow, KØCF, Editor

This bulletin is a compilation of **currently active** DX operations (or those that will become active within the current week) from recent issues of the three DX bulletins listed below and other sources. Credit for the source is given at the end of each article.

Articles are ordered by the entity's callsign prefix from the *ARRL DXCC Entities List*. Callsigns used are in **bold** with dates of operation highlighted in **red**. Clickable links are provided for QSL and other information wherever possible. Note that articles may be edited for grammar, language, style and accuracy and will remain in *The Bulletin* while active; articles that are announcements of ongoing operations, or that have no specified end date, will be removed after three weeks.

Also included is a [Propagation](#) section (updated as conditions warrant) and a [Contest Calendar](#) of upcoming popular contests.

DX News items are courtesy of:

The ARRL DX Bulletin

This bulletin is available via email subscription only. See

<http://www.arrl.org/bulletins> to subscribe. (The online archive is no longer updated.)

425 DX News, A.R.I. DX Bulletin (425DXN)

Edited by Mauro Pregliasco, I1JQJ & Valeria Pregliasco, IK1ADH

425 DX News Home Page: <https://www.425dxn.org/>

425 DX News Google Group: <https://groups.google.com/g/425eng>

DX Newsletter (DXNL)

Edited by Andreas Salder, DK5ON

A weekly service of DARC Committee "DX", <http://www.darcdxhf.de>

Propagation data is from:

National Oceanic and Atmospheric Administration's

[Space Weather Prediction Center](#)

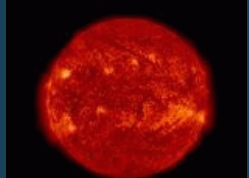
Dr. Tony Phillips' [SpaceWeather.com](#), used by permission

Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#)



Solar-Terrestrial Data

31 Jan 2026 1813 GMT
SFI: 128 SN: 79
A-Index: 10
K-Index: 0
X-Ray: C2.8
304A: 131.5 @ SEM
Ptn Flx: 15
Elc Flx: 3130
Aurora: 2/n=1.99
Mag (Bz): -0.2
Solar Wind: 417.4
Geomag Field INACTIVE
Sig Noise Lvl S0-S1
Current Solar Image



<http://www.norbh.com>
Copyright Paul L. Herrman 2023

5190

DX News

3B8, MAURITIUS. Matt, DL5PT, is QRV as **3B8/DL5PT** from Flic-en-Flac **until the end of March**.

Activity is in his spare time on 20 through 10 meters using FT8. QSL to [DL5PT](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0327)

3B8, MAURITIUS. Michael, OE6MBG will be active as **3B8/OE6MBG** from Mauritius (AF-049) on **February 2nd-23rd**. He plans to focus on 80 and 40 meters, using SSB, CW and possibly some FT8/FT4. QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW and ClubLog.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0227)

3B9, RODRIGUES I. Robert, **3B9FR**, has been QRV on 10 meters using FT8 around 1600z. QSL to [3B9FR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0220)

3Y, BOUVET I. The following was posted on January 25th to the **3YØK** DXpedition's Facebook page (<https://www.facebook.com/groups/1787070508410564/>):

"Due to unforeseen circumstances, the 3YØK DXpedition to Bouvet Island will be **delayed by approximately two weeks**. Our vessel requires additional maintenance to ensure it is fully prepared for the demanding voyage to one of the most remote and challenging locations on Earth.

While this delay is disappointing, the safety of our team remains our highest priority. The adjustment does not change the overall strategy of the DXpedition, which has been carefully planned over the past three years.

We will continue to keep you informed as our schedule is updated". The team was originally scheduled to depart from Cape Town on February 1st.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0213)

4S, SRI LANKA. Peter, DCØKK is QRV as **4S7KKG** until **March 31st**. Activity is on 60 through 6 meters using FT8, and on Satellite QO-100. QSL to [DCØKK](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 22, 2026] (0123-0403)

5H, TANZANIA. Chas, NK8O is QRV as **5H3DX** until **February 9th**. Activity is in his limited spare time on 20 through 10 meters using CW and digital modes. This may include 6 meters if conditions permit. QSL via [NK8O](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 22, 2026] (0123-0213)

5Z, KENYA. Michael, OZ6ABL will be active as **5Z4/OZ6ABL** from Watamu (LI06ap), Kenya, from **January 15th to February 28th**. Activity will be holiday style on 80-6 meters CW, SSB, and FT8/FT4. QSL via LoTW, [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or via [OZ6ABL](#).

-[425DXN # 1810 January 10, 2026] (0109-0227)

7Q, MALAWI. Chris, ZS6RI, is currently active from Karonga in Malawi's North as **7Q5C**. Lengthy work assignments of 6 months will keep him busy there until 2027. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[DXNL # 2493 January 14, 2026] (0116-0206)

8R, GUYANA. Aldir, PY1SAD, is QRV as **8R1TM** until **February 23rd**. Activity is on 160 through 6 meters using CW, SSB, and various digital modes during the week between 2300 and 0300z, and full-time on weekends. This includes being active on various FM and analog Satellites. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0227)

9X, RWANDA. Harold, DF2WO will be active again as **9X2AW** from Kigali, Rwanda from **January 22nd to February 8th**. He can operate on 160-6 meters using CW, SSB, FT8 and FT4, as well as on the QO-100 satellite. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0213)

C2, NAURU. Phill, FK1TS is active again as **C21TS** from Nauru (OC-031) until "towards the **end of July**", he says, when he will QRT for good. He operates FT8 and possibly will try some SSB. QSOs are live streamed on ClubLog. QSL via LoTW, or [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0227)

C5, THE GAMBIA. Przemo, SP3PS and Magda are QRV as **C5SP** and **C5MB**, respectively, from Sanyang until **March 1st**. Activity is on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB, FT8, and FT4. QSL direct via [SP3PS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 3 January 22, 2026] (0123-0227)

CE9,KC4, ANTARCTICA. Felix, DL5XL, has to **cancel** his work trip to Antarctica and thus also his operating as **DPØGVN** and **DP1POL** due to personal reasons. He hopes to be back during the 2026/27 Antarctic season.

-[DXNL # 2493 January 14, 2026] (0116-0206)

CE9,KC4, ANTARCTICA. Rikk, WE9G plans to be active as **WE9G/KC4** from the Palmer Peninsula, Antarctica sometime beginning **January 30th until February 3rd**, "including one overnight stay". QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), or [WE9G](#).

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0130-0206)

CE9,KC4, ANTARCTICA. Tom, VK2TBC will be active as **VKØTBC** from Casey Station, Antarctica from **February through December**. He will operate SSB and FT8 in his spare time. Updates will be posted to <https://vk2tbc.com/>.

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0130-0220)

CEØ, SAN FELIX & SAN AMBROSIO. Felipe, XQ7IR, has announced that the DXpedition to San Ambrosio Island (SA-013) is presently **on hold** due to conflicts over necessary landing and operating permits. He hopes that future developments with the involved authorities will turn the situation into a mere postponement. Meanwhile, the equipment that was to be used during the DXpedition will remain stored on Juan Fernandez Island (CEØ/Z). Sponsors and donors will be contacted individually. For more information see <https://sanambrosio-project.com/index.php>.

-[DXNL # 2493 January 14, 2026] (0116-0206)

DL, GERMANY. To celebrate the Winter Olympic and Paralympic Games Milano Cortina 2026, the DARC Team SES will be active as **DD2Ø26OWG** (**February 1st - March 1st**) and **DD2Ø26WPG** (**March 1st - April 1st**). QSL via [DK5ON](#), LoTW and DCL (DARC Community Logbook).

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0130-0403)

DL, GERMANY. Special callsign **DQ3ØGDXF** celebrates the 30th anniversary of the German DX Foundation (<https://www.gdxf.de/>) **until December 31st**. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) and LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0206)

DL, GERMANY. The DARC Team SES will be active as **DA2Ø26SKI** from **January 15th to February 15th** for the FIS Ski-Flying World Championships to be held in Oberstdorf. QSL via [DK5ON](#), LoTW or DCL (DARC Community Logbook).

-[425DXN # 1810 January 10, 2026] (0109-0220)

DL, GERMANY. The DARC Team SES will be active as **DH2Ø26EM** from **January 10th to February 10th** for the Men's European Handball Championship to be cohosted by Denmark, Sweden and Norway. QSL via [DK5ON](#), LoTW and DCL (DARC Community Logbook).

-[425DXN # 1809 January 3, 2026] (0109-0213)

DXCC TOP TWENTY. Here are the top 20 entities on ClubLog's "DXCC Most Wanted" list as of January 30, 2026:

1. P5	DPRK (North Korea)	11. KH4	Midway Island
2. KH3	Johnston Island	12. VKØM	Macquarie Island
3. KH7K	Kure Island	13. EZ	Turkmenistan
4. CEØX	San Felix Islands	14. KP5	Desecheo Island
5. FT5/X	Kerguelen Island	15. PYØS	Saint Peter And Paul Rocks
6. BS7H	Scarborough Reef	16. VPØS	South Sandwich Islands
7. 3Y/P	Peter 1 Island	17. YK	Syria
8. YVØ	Aves Island	18. ZL9	New Zealand Subantarctic Islands
9. BV9P	Pratas Island	19. FT/T	Tromelin Island
10. 3Y/B	Bouvet Island	20. VKØH	Heard Island

For the complete list, see <https://clublog.org/mostwanted.php>

-[KØCF January 30, 2026] (0130-0220)

EA, SPAIN. The special event station **EH175FCM** will be active from **January 30th to February 1st**. QSL via eQSL.

-[DXNL # 2495 January 28, 2026] (0130-0206)

EA8, CANARY IS. Special callsign **EG8VC** celebrates the annual Canary patron saint festival from **January 30th until February 2nd**.

-[DXNL # 2495 January 28, 2026] (0130-0206)

F, FRANCE. Special callsign **TM27PVJ** will be activated from **January 26th to February 1st** for the 27th "Percee du Vin Jaune", the festival celebrating the "Opening of the Yellow Wine" which this year will

take place at Lons-le-Saunier (Jura). QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0123-0206)

FG, GUADELOUPE. Philippe, F1DUZ, will be QRV as **FG4KH** from **January 20th to February 10th**.

Activity will be on 80 through 10 meters using SSB. QSL via [F1DUZ](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0213)

FO, FRENCH POLYNESIA. Pascal, F6HCM, is QRV as **FO/F6HCM** until **February 5th**, from various islands in this archipelago. Activity is in his spare time and generally on 15 meters using CW with QRP power. QSL to [F6HCM](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 31, 2025] (0102-0206)

G, ENGLAND. Special callsign **GB5ØPUNK**, run by David (G3SKA) and others, celebrates the birth of Punk music 50 years ago during 2026. QSL information at [GB5ØPUNK](#).

-[DXNL # 2495 January 28, 2026] (0130-0220)

H4, SOLOMON IS. Bernhard, DL2GAC, will be QRV as **H44MS** from Manakwai Village on Malaita Island (OC-047) from **January 18th to April 15th**. Activity will be on the HF bands. QSL to [DL2GAC](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0417)

J3, GRENADA. Rikk, WE9G is QRV as **J38WG** until **February 16th**. Activity is on 160 through 6 meters using mostly FT8 with some CW and SSB. He may also activate some POTA references. QSL to [WE9G](#), [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 52 December 31, 2025] (0102-0220)

J5, GUINEA-BISSAU. Livio, IZ3BUR is QRV as **J52EC** until **March 1st**. He has been active on 15 and 10 meters using SSB. QSL direct to [IZ3BUR](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0227)

KP5, DESECHEO I. A group of operators (*see next article*) using remote control are now QRV as **KP5/NP3VI** until **February 14th**. Activity is on 160 through 10 meters using CW, SSB, and FT8. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0213)

KP5, DESECHEO I. In collaboration with the Vieques Island Amateur Radio Club (NP3VI) and the Manyana DX Foundation, **KP5/NP3VI** is expected to be "a landmark DXpedition" to Desecheo Island, currently ranked as the 14th most wanted DXCC Entity worldwide.

Located approximately 13 miles off the west coast of Puerto Rico, Desecheo Island has not been activated since 2009. This operation represents the first Puerto Rican-led DXpedition to KP5 in 48 years, following the historic KP4AM/D activation in 1978.

Plans are to deploy two self-sustained RDUs (Remote Deployable Units) provided by the Manyana DX Foundation. The deployment window is **January 12th-14th**, weather permitting. Once deployed, the DXpedition is expected to operate 24 hours a day for approximately **30 consecutive days**, until the scheduled recovery date. The stations will utilize state-of-the-art remote operating infrastructure from Remote Ham Radio (RHR). KP5/NP3VI will be QRV on 160-6 meters CW, SSB, and FT8 (always MSHV, never F/H). ClubLog's Live Stream feature will be enabled. More information and updates can be found on <https://desecheo2026.com/kp5/> and <https://www.facebook.com/people/Desecheo-2026-Dxpedition/61585525894897/>. QSL via [MØOXO's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1808 December 27, 2025] (0109-0213)

OX, GREENLAND. Loren, KK5LM, is currently staying on Pituffik Space Base and operates as **OX5LM** during his spare time. QRV until **December 2026** on 80-10m on SSB and FT4/8. QSL info via e-mail.

-[DXNL # 2493 January 14, 2026] (0116-0206)

OX, GREENLAND. Michael, **OX3MC**, plans to get on the air whenever time permits from **December 29th to February 25th** from Pituffik Space Base (NA-018). QRV on 80-10m, mostly on SSB. QSL via OZ QSL bureau.

-[DXNL # 2490 December 24, 2025] (1226-0227)

PJ2, CURACAO. Andre, PD1DRE will be active again as **PJ2/PD1DRE** from Curacao (SA-099) from **January 26th to March 4th**. He operates SSB and FT8/FT4. QSL via eQSL.

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0123-0306)

PJ2, CURACAO. Thaire, W2APF will be active as **PJ2/W2APF** from Curacao (SA-099) from **January 22nd to March 31st**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [W2APF](#).

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0403)

S9, SAO TOME & PRINCIPE. Borut, S53BV will be active holiday style as **S9BV** from Sao Tome (AF-023) on **February 5th-20th**. He will operate CW and SSB on 60, 40, 30 and 15 meters. QSL via [ClubLog's OQRS](#) only.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0130-0220)

SØ, WESTERN SAHARA. Members of the Sahrawi Amateur Radio Union will be active as **SØS** (Sierra Zero Sierra) on QO-100 (mainly SSB, possibly with some FT8/ FT4) starting on **February 3rd for 8-9 days**. The grid locators to be activated, from north to south, are IL35, IL34, IL33, IL32, IL31, IL21, IL11, and IL10 (not necessarily in this order). All QSOs will be uploaded to LoTW free of charge. Paper QSL cards will be available exclusively via [ClubLog's OQRS](#).

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0213)

T8, PALAU. Operators JR3QFB, JA1MFR, JA1JRE, JA1MEJ, and 7K4TKB are QRV as **T88JH**, **T88KY**, **T88MH**, **T88MT**, and **T88YL**, respectively, **until January 31st**. QSL T88JH via [JR3QFB](#), T88KY via [JA1MFR](#), T88MH via [JA1JRE](#), T88MT via [JA1MEJ](#), and T88YL via [7K4TKB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0206)

TL, CENTRAL AFRICA. Joao, CR7BNW, is QRV as **TL8BNW** **until June 1st**. Pending the arrival of new equipment this weekend, he plans to upgrade his station's capabilities for a specialized run on 160 meters. From **February 4th to 14th**, he will temporarily modify his dipole antenna to focus **exclusively on 160m** SSB and digital modes. After that period, he will reconfigure the dipole to restore its standard multi-band functionality, returning to his regular operations on 40, 20, 15, and 10 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0306)

TY, BENIN. Gerard, F5NVF, is QRV as **TY5GG** **until April 6th**. Activity is on the HF bands. QSL via LoTW.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0410)

UR, UKRAINE. Established in 1947, the British Faraday Antarctic Station was transferred to Ukraine in February 1996 and renamed Akademik Vernadsky. Celebrating that 30th anniversary, five special callsigns will be active **from February 1st to March 1st**: **EM3ØVER**, operated by Antarctic veterans - **EM3ØKY** (op. UT1KY), **EM3ØKCC** (op. UR5KCC), **EM3ØLV** (op. UR8LV), and **EN3ØUA** (op. UT7UA). A certificate will be available, see <https://www.grz.com/db/EM3ØVER> for information.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0130-0227)

UR, UKRAINE. Special callsigns **EM1ØØW** and **EN1ØØWLKK** celebrate the 100th anniversary of the Lviv Shortwave Club, founded in 1926 as Lwowski Klub Krotkofalowcow (LKK). It was one of the largest European clubs before World War II. A commemorative certificate will be available, see <https://www.grz.com/db/EM1ØØW> for information.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0206)

UR, UKRAINE. To celebrate his 50th anniversary in amateur radio, Nick, US8AR will be active **throughout 2026** using the special callsign **EM5ØAR**. Electronic QSL cards can be downloaded from <https://em50ar.pp.ua/>.

-[425DXN # 1811 January 17, 2026] (0116-0206)

V3, BELIZE. Walt, WØCP as **V31DJ** (CW and SSB) and his wife Mary, KØZV as **V31DK** (FT8 and FT4) will be active again from Placencia, Belize on **February 1st to 27th**. Look for them on 160-10 meters. QSL V31DJ via [ClubLog's OQRS](#), LoTW, or direct to [WØCP](#); QSL V31DK via [ClubLog's](#)

[OQRS](#), LoTW, or direct to [KØZV](#).

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0130-0227)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. John, W5JON, is QRV as **V47JA** from St. Kitts (NA-104) **until February 3rd**. Activity is on 160 through 6 meters using SSB and FT8. QSL via LoTW or direct to [W5JON](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0206)

V4, ST. KITTS & NEVIS. Tom, KØYA and his wife Toni, W5RCX will be active again as **V4/KØYA** and **V4/W5RCX** from St. Kitts (NA-104) from **February 4th to March 9th**. Activity will be holiday style on 160-6 meters CW, SSB, FT8, FT4. Look for Tom to participate as **V47Y** in both legs of the ARRL International DX Contest, CW (February 21st-22nd) and SSB (March 7th-8th). QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1813 January 31, 2026] (0130-0313)

VE, CANADA. Remote station **VO2LAB/VYØ** is operated by WB2REM and **currently active** from Iqaluit on Baffin Island. QSOs will be posted to LoTW, QRZ and ClubLog; paper QSL cards are not available.

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0123-0213)

VP2E, ANGUILLA. Rick, W4IO will be active holiday style as **VP2EIO** from Anguilla (NA-022) on **January 24th-31st**. He will operate FT8 and some SSB on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW, or direct to [W4IO](#).

-[425DXN # 1812 January 24, 2026] (0123-0130)

VP8/H,LU,CE9,HFØ,4K1, SOUTH SHETLAND IS. Station **LZØA**, operated by Ivo, LZ1AAW, is QRV **until February 16th** and has been active on 20 meters using SSB around 2300z. QSL via LoTW or LZ1KDP, P.O.Box 830, 1000 Sofia, Bulgaria.

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 4 January 29, 2026] (0130-0220))

VP8/O,LU, SOUTH ORKNEY IS. Gabriel, LU1WGB, is QRV as **LU1WGB/Z** from the Joint Antarctic Base Orcadas on Laurie Island (AN-008) **until February 22nd**. Activity is in his spare time on the HF bands using FT8. QSL to [LU1WGB](#).

-[ARRL DX Bulletin # 2 January 15, 2026] (0116-0227)

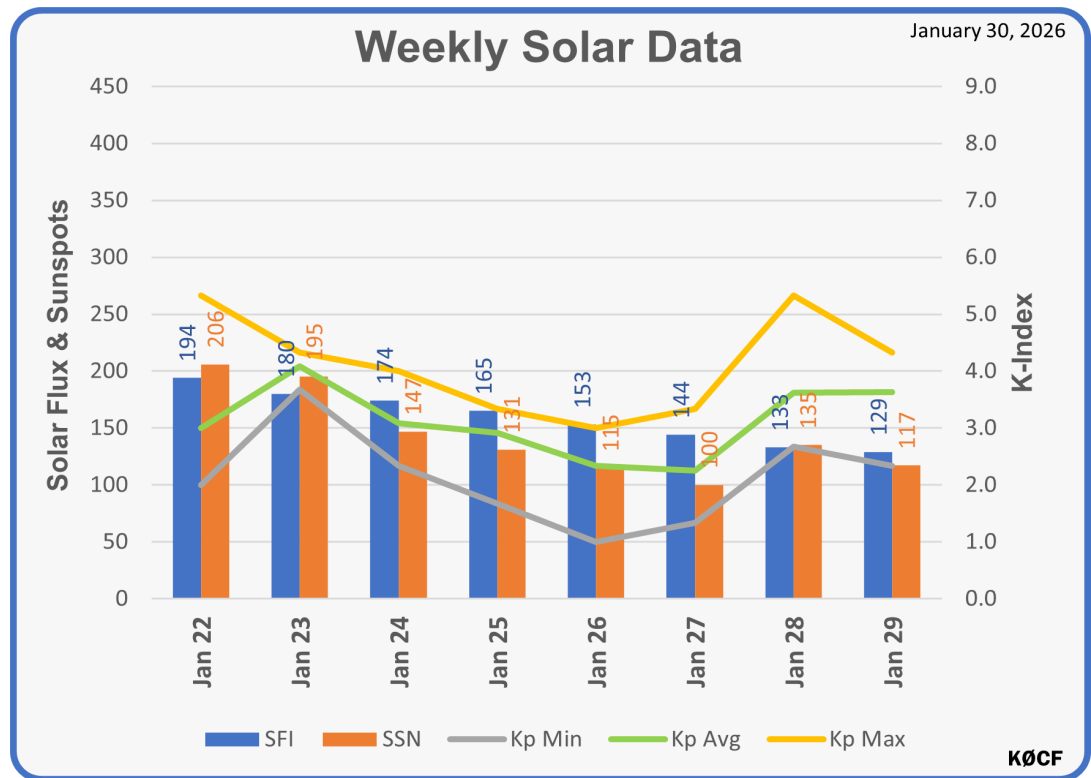
YB, INDONESIA. Dave, PB2X will be active as **YB5/PB2X** from West Sulawesi, Indonesia from **January 15th until February 5th**. He will operate CW, SSB and FT8 ("if I get it working in time") on 80-10 meters. QSL via [PB2X](#).

-[425DXN # 1810 January 10, 2026] (0109-0206)

ZL, NEW ZEALAND. Special callsign **ZL6ØPAH** will be used by Phil, ZL3PAH from **November 23rd to February 22, 2026**, to celebrate his diamond jubilee in amateur radio. He will operate CW, RTTY, and "maybe a little SSB too" on 80-10 meters. QSL via LoTW.

-[425DXN # 1802 November 15, 2025] (1121-0220)

Propagation



The Weekly Solar Data chart plots Solar Flux Index (SFI), Sunspot number (SSN) and Planetary K-index (Kp) for the past 8 days. With 8 Planetary K-index readings each day, only the minimum, average and maximum K-index values are plotted. **Note:** You may click [here](#) or on the chart above to see the same data for the past month.

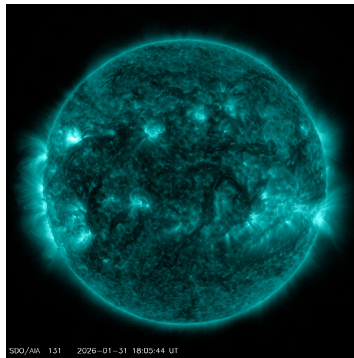
The Daily Solar Flux Index, Sunspot number, Planetary K-index, Solar Flux predictions and Solar Flare data used in this bulletin have been collected by KØCF from the U.S. Department of Commerce's NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center.

The propagation graphs above are the creations of KØCF and are unique in space weather reporting.

Please Note: The graphs are high resolution .PNG files which you may view in greater detail using your browser's "zoom" feature. Alternatively, right click on the graph and select "Open Image in New Tab" to enlarge it, or "Save Image As..." to save it to your computer for further analysis.

NASA's current view of the Sun at a wave-length of 131 Angstroms. This wavelength shows incredible solar detail.

Click [here](#) or on the image to view as a full screen 48-hour video loop. It is fascinating!



Propagation Summary

For the 8 day period from Thursday, January 22nd through Thursday, January 29th.

The average solar flux was 154, down 16 points from the previous week, with a weekly high of 194 on Thursday, January 22nd, followed by a low of 129 on January 29th.

The average sunspot count was 134, down by 25 from last week, peaking at 206 on Thursday, January 22nd followed by a weekly low of 100 on January 27th.

The Planetary K-index weekly average was 4.1 with a maximum of 5.3 on Wednesday, January 28th, indicating a minor geomagnetic storm. The most recent K-index maximum was 4.3 with generally quiet conditions.

Solar flare activity since January 23rd has been quiet with no major flares.

Propagation Data

Major solar flares, Friday, January 23rd through 1526 UTC, January 30th.

#	Date	UTC	Mag.
None Reported			

(NOAA's graph of recent flare activity: [GOES-X-Ray-Flux](#))

From the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center, here are the probabilities of major solar flares and the predicted 10.7 cm Solar Flux for the next 3 days. NOAA updates this information daily.

Date	M-Flares	X-Flares	Solar Flux
Jan 30	15%	5%	125
Jan 31	10%	1%	115
Feb 1	10%	1%	110

Looking farther ahead, here is the NOAA Space Weather Prediction Center forecast of 10.7 cm radio flux and maximum Planetary K-index (Kp) for the next 12 days. This data is updated by NOAA every Monday (last updated on January 26, 2026).

Date	Flux	Kp
Jan 30	130	3
Jan 31	120	3
Feb 1	120	2
Feb 2	130	2

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 3	140	2
Feb 4	140	4
Feb 5	130	4
Feb 6	120	3

Date	Flux	Kp
Feb 7	125	3
Feb 8	130	3
Feb 9	135	3
Feb 10	140	3

Global D Region Absorption

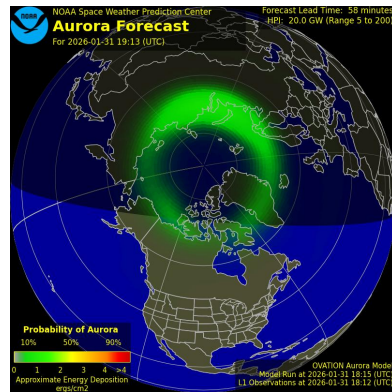
Conditions in the D-region of the ionosphere have a dramatic effect on HF communications. The D-Region Absorption map combines the effects of solar particles and photons. Yellow to red colors on the map depict increasing signal attenuation, where the bar chart at the right displays attenuation versus frequency. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of D-Region Absorption:



The Aurora Borealis

The aurora is not only beautiful to see but can have a profound impact on HF and VHF radio propagation. For the HF operator, auroras can result in a complete shut-down of propagation. However, on VHF, auroras present interesting DX possibilities. Beam antennas are very desirable and should be pointed north, towards the aurora. Signals are reflected by "back-scatter" and will be distorted with a rough buzz. SSB is the best voice mode to use, but copy can be difficult. CW will have a rough buzzy sound but be perfectly copyable. Click the thumbnail below for an animated map of

aurora versus time:



Highs for Cycle 25

Solar Flux: 336 on August 8, 2024.

Sunspots: 382 on August 10, 2024.

Popular Propagation web sites

<https://prop.kc2g.com/> (Excellent Maximum Usable Frequency map)

NOAA <https://www.swpc.noaa.gov/>

<https://www.spaceweather.com/>

<https://www.solarham.com/>

<https://dx.gsl.net/propagation/>

A Propagation Tutorial

The solar X-ray flux tracks solar activity and solar flares. Solar flux, which can vary from as low as 50 to as high as 300, influences the level of ionization in the F2 region of the ionosphere, providing a very good prediction of HF DX conditions. The higher the solar flux, the better conditions will be for the higher HF frequencies and even 6 meters. However, the levels need to be maintained for some days to allow ionization in the F2 layer to build up. A solar flux of 150 results in good HF band conditions, while levels of 200 and up can provide great conditions.

Large X-ray flares on the sun can increase the ionization of the D layer of the ionosphere (a lower layer) on the sunlit side of the Earth, greatly attenuating or blocking HF radio transmissions for up to a half hour. Solar flares often produce Coronal Mass Ejections (CMEs) which, if Earth directed, can lead to geomagnetic storms. Some large flares are also accompanied by strong radio bursts that may interfere with other radio frequencies and cause problems for satellite communication and radio navigation (GPS).

The Planetary K-index is a measure of the magnitude of geomagnetic storms and is an excellent indicator of disturbances in the Earth's magnetic field. A level of 1 or 2 represents quiet geomagnetic conditions; a reading of 3 or 4 may cause some propagation deterioration; 5 and 6 are minor to moderate geomagnetic storms; and 7 to 9 are strong, severe, and extreme storm conditions. Strong geomagnetic storms can trigger Auroral displays and cause HF radio blackouts. Higher geomagnetic activity also has the adverse effect of lowering maximum usable frequencies, much like lower solar flux does.

For best conditions, the solar flux should be above 150 for a few days with the K index below 2. When these conditions are met, some good DX is likely!

(Compiled from information on NOAA.gov and other sources.)

Contest Calendar

Weekly Contests

Contest	Start UTC		End	Web Site
K1USN Slow Speed Test	Monday	0000Z	0100Z	Rules
ICWC Medium Speed Test	Monday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Monday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Tuesday	0300Z	0400Z	
CWops Test (CWT)	Wednesday	1300Z	1400Z	Rules
	Wednesday	1900Z	2000Z	
	Thursday	0300Z	0400Z	
	Thursday	0700Z	0800Z	
Weekly RTTY Test	Friday	0145Z	0215Z	Rules
NCCC CW Sprint (NS)	Friday	0230Z	0300Z	Rules

Note: Start Days are in UTC, e.g. Monday at 0000 UTC is Sunday at 7:00 PM in the Central Daylight Saving Time zone, or Sunday at 6:00 PM in the Central Standard Time zone.

Full Calendar

Contest	Start		End		Web Site
Vermont QSO Party	Feb 7	0000Z	Feb 8	2400Z	Rules
10-10 Int. Winter Contest, SSB	Feb 7	0001Z	Feb 8	2359Z	Rules
Mexico RTTY International Contest	Feb 7	1200Z	Feb 8	2359Z	Rules
Minnesota QSO Party	Feb 7	1400Z	Feb 7	2400Z	Rules
British Columbia QSO Party	Feb 7	1600Z	Feb 8	2400Z	Rules
North American Sprint, CW	Feb 8	0000Z	Feb 8	0359Z	Rules
ARRL School Club Roundup	Feb 9	1300Z	Feb 13	2359Z	Rules
CQ WW RTTY WPX Contest	Feb 14	0000Z	Feb 15	2400Z	Rules
CQ 160-Meter Contest, SSB	Feb 20	2200Z	Feb 22	2159Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, CW	Feb 21	0000Z	Feb 22	2400Z	Rules
REF Contest, SSB	Feb 21	0600Z	Feb 22	1800Z	Rules
South Carolina QSO Party	Feb 21	1500Z	Feb 22	0159Z	Rules
North American QSO Party, RTTY	Feb 28	1800Z	Mar 1	0600Z	Rules
ARRL Inter. DX Contest, SSB	Mar 7	0000Z	Mar 8	2400Z	Rules
Oklahoma QSO Party	Mar 14	1400Z	Mar 15	2100Z	Rules
Stew Perry Topband Challenge	Mar 14	1500Z	Mar 15	1500Z	Rules
Idaho QSO Party	Mar 14	1900Z	Mar 15	1900Z	Rules
North American Sprint, RTTY	Mar 15	0000Z	Mar 15	0359Z	Rules
Wisconsin QSO Party	Mar 15	1800Z	Mar 16	0100Z	Rules
BARTG HF RTTY Contest	Mar 21	0200Z	Mar 23	0200Z	Rules
Russian DX Contest	Mar 21	1200Z	Mar 22	1200Z	Rules
Virginia QSO Party	Mar 21	1400Z	Mar 22	2400Z	Rules
CQ WW WPX Contest, SSB	Mar 28	0000Z	Mar 29	2400Z	Rules
Louisiana QSO Party	Apr 4	1400Z	Apr 5	0200Z	Rules

SP DX Contest	Apr 4	1500Z	Apr 5	1500Z	Rules
QRP ARCI Spring QSO Party	Apr 11	0000Z	Apr 11	2359Z	Rules
JIDX CW Contest	Apr 11	0700Z	Apr 12	1300Z	Rules
OK/OM DX Contest, SSB	Apr 11	1200Z	Apr 12	1159Z	Rules
New Mexico QSO Party	Apr 11	1400Z	Apr 12	0200Z	Rules
Georgia QSO Party	Apr 11	1800Z	Apr 12	2359Z	Rules
CQMM DX Contest	Apr 18	0900Z	Apr 19	2359Z	Rules
Michigan QSO Party	Apr 18	1600Z	Apr 19	0400Z	Rules
Ontario QSO Party	Apr 18	1800Z	Apr 19	1800Z	Rules
Quebec QSO Party	Apr 19	1200Z	Apr 19	2200Z	Rules
ARRL Rookie Roundup, SSB	Apr 19	1800Z	Apr 19	2359Z	Rules
Florida QSO Party	Apr 25	1600Z	Apr 26	2159Z	Rules
7th Call Area QSO Party	May 2	1300Z	May 3	0700Z	Rules
Indiana QSO Party	May 2	1600Z	May 3	0400Z	Rules
Delaware QSO Party	May 2	1700Z	May 3	2359Z	Rules
New England QSO Party	May 2	2000Z	May 3	2400Z	Rules

(Contest data courtesy of the [WA7BNM Contest Calendar](#))